G. R. S. 50]

P16

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

191 .

(G. M. -)

File No. 65-13

Serial Nos. 1-6

Papers Filed.

Month Aug/13.

SUBJECT.

Mrs Herringham's "Ajanta Cave Paintings" published by the India society London.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES.

LATER REFERENCES.

8/14

G.R.S. 11) 191

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

NOTES.

File No.

FILE HEADING.

From

No. Dated Received

Diary No. Enclos. Spare Copies. Serial No.

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

1 The publication is stated to consist of 25 reproductions in colour on the full scale of the originals, 8 pencil drawings and 6 tracings in outline, of the Buddhist frescoes at Ajanta. The price of the publication is £3. A copy of it may

GPL—G,000—12-5-11

Serial No.

perhaps be purchased for the use of the Bhamanagendra Technical Institute at Mysore, the only Art School of importance in the State.

This is a work published by the India Council, London, with the objects of which Govt. have expressed themselves to be in sympathy and to which they have afforded some assistance please see Fin. 64-1-6.

R. N. M.
4.7.13.

2 A copy may also be obtained from the Secretariat library. Three copies may be asked for.

(Secy)

3.

4.7.13
18.7.13

17.7.13
Ag

17/7/13

4 Please pass on Revenue endorsed

18/7

NOTE.—Contn. sheet.

R. S. L.

General and Revenue Secretariat. File No. of 191

Serial No.

5 Draft Subd.
N MR
24/5 6 Issue
[illegible]
22/7/13

[illegible]

3 [illegible]

[illegible]

7 Subd. The receipt of the books
may be acknowledged.
Yrs [illegible]
hg Mus
8/7/14

7

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

R. 14.

General and Revenue Secretariat.

File No. of 191 .

Serial No.

Order are now required for the distribution of the 3 copies of the publication. If approved, They will be distributed as follows:

The Secretarial Library 1

" Public Library, Bangalore 1

" Chamarajendra Technical Institute, Mysore 1

G. R. S. 12

General and Revenue Secretariat.

File No. of 191

Serial No.

To the Librarian with the Copy.

V.S.

16/8/16

No. 2167-S/6/12

Mysore Residency,
Bangalore, the 30th June 1913.

No. 3776
F. 21-1

A copy of the foregoing letter, with enclosure, is forwarded to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, for information, with the request that the Resident may be informed whether the Durbar requires any, and if so, how many copies of the Agents' Code Pamphlet referred to therein.

Return requested.

DIARY No. 2

1913-1914

SECTION

No.

First Assistant Resident.

INDIA OFFICE, LONDON.

11th April 1913.

PUBLIC (RECORDS),

NO. 9.

To

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

MY LORD,

From India Society (undated).
To India Society, dated 8th April 1913.

From the enclosed copy of correspondence it will be seen that the India Society are contemplating a publication of the copies of the Ajanta Cave Paintings made by Mrs. Herringham and her assistants, and that thirty copies will be purchased by this Office. Twenty-five of these copies will be sent to India, but I should be glad to learn whether this number will meet the requirements of the Supreme and Local Governments, or whether a larger subscription is advisable.

I have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servant,

CREWE.

94DE—50—30-5-13—GCBP Simla

Enclosure No. 1.

To the Under-Secretary of State for India.

SIR,

I am desired by the Executive Committee of the India Society to invite the attention of the Government of India to the proposed publication of the Society's copies of the Buddhist frescoes at Ajanta, and to inquire whether the Government would be disposed to give any help towards this important and costly undertaking.

1. The copies in question consist of twenty-five works in colour done on the full scale of the originals, eight pencil drawings, and six tracings in outline. They were all executed by Mrs. Herringham with a group of trained assistants from the Government Art School, Calcutta, in the years 1909—1911. Except for some valued assistance given by His Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad, the heavy expenses of the undertaking were met wholly from private resources, English and Indian. The copies were presented by Mrs. Herringham to the India Society and are now exhibited* on loan in the Indian Section of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

2. Mrs. Christina Herringham, an artist of unusual insight and distinction devoted two years to this work with the aid of Indian and English assistants. The copies made by these young Indian artists under her direction are among the most successful in rendering the technical qualities of the originals. Mrs. Herringham was able to ensure the greatest possible accuracy, seeing the lamentably imperfect condition of many of the frescoes, by direct tracing from the originals, and the importance of her copies as an interpretation of the spirit of the ancient painting of India is great, for students of Oriental art alike in Europe, America, and India itself.

3. In publishing reproductions of these works the India Society has in view the special service which the publication may render to Indian artists and art schools as well as the attraction such a publication will have for students and lovers of art throughout the world. The method employed will be that known as the chromocollotype process, which is much the most costly, but which alone ensures durability and avoids the inartistic effect of "loaded" paper. The work will be placed in the hands of Mr. Emery Walker. The reproductions will be printed on loose plates in a portfolio, and will appear in two successive yearly issues, the last containing also an explanatory and critical text. The price of each issue will be *thirty shillings*.

4. The Society is, of course, aware that the Government of India has already concerned itself about the reproduction of the Ajanta frescoes in the help which it gave towards the publication of the valuable work of Mr. Griffiths about thirty years ago. The Society would point out, however, that

(*a*) Both the copies made on the spot and the reproductions made from them for that work were done at a time when the genius of Eastern art was less well understood than is the case to-day, when the discovery and study of Chinese and Japanese art have given to scholars a clearer understanding of the peculiar genius of Indian art. Mrs. Herringham's copies give the sense of brilliance and vivacity, together with a rare nobility of design, which is a marked characteristic of the original frescoes.

(*b*) The methods of colour reproduction have much improved in delicacy and faithfulness since the production of Mr. Griffiths' work, and the results now obtainable in the hands of such a craftsman as Mr. Emery Walker have never been equalled.

(*c*) The work of Mr. Griffiths being contained in two volumes of great size and weight is practically unavailable for the use of private students or for serious study in art schools, whereas the plates of the India Society can be separately examined, copied, or hung up.

* Four of them are temporarily on loan for an Exhibition at Paris in April.

5. The great expense involved in the undertaking cannot be met either from the Society's ordinary resources nor from the proceeds of the sale of any such edition as the Society can prudently issue, not from any contributions of those An appeal is therefore made for special donations to the Ajanta Publications Fund which it is estimated must reach a figure of £75 before the Society can safely commit itself to the undertaking. The Society would be extremely grateful if the Indian Government could see its way to help the project either by a grant of money or by a substantial order of copies of the work for distribution to schools, libraries, etc. It may be added that no general appeal for donations has yet been issued but a few private members of the Society have already subscribed a sum of £115 to the fund.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your obedient servant,

(Sd.) A. H. FOX STRANGWAYS,

Honorary Secretary.

3, Hertford Street,
Mayfair, London, W.

P.S.—A copy of the Society's reproduction of one of Mrs. Herringham's copies is herewith enclosed and the original from which it was taken can, if desired, be sent to the India Office for inspection.

A copy of this letter is similarly enclosed for reference.

INDIA OFFICE,

R. & R. 864

8th April 1913.

SIR,

In reply to your letter (undated) regarding a proposed publication by the India Society of reproductions of the copies of the Ajanta Cave Paintings made by Mrs. Herringham and her assistants, I am directed to inform you that the Secretary of State for India in Council will purchase thirty copies of the work at £3 each and will ascertain from the Government of India whether the requirements of the several Governments in that country will make a larger subscription advisable.

I am,

SIR,

Your obedient servant,

(Sd.) T. W. HOLDERNESS.

The Honorary Secretary,
The India Society,
3, Hertford Street,
Mayfair, W.

94DS—30—30.3.13—GC&P Simla

File No.

Serial No.

Date No. of letter replied to

Fol No. 69.

General and Revenue Secretariat

To

The Asst. Resident

Date of issue 24.7.13.

Signed by the A. R. Shunkwaleri

Sir

With reference to your ext. No. 3770 dated the 30th. ultimo requesting to be informed whether the Dumbara regard any copies of MSS. hemispheres "Kanta cave writings" which the Archaeologist is contemplating to publish I am directed to state that the Dumbara will be [illegible]

over.

SUBJECT

letter No. 7' dated the 'th December 1913 'rom the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education, to His -- Majesty's Under Secretary of State for India.

With reference to the correspondence from His Majesty's Secretary of State for India No. 9 Public(Records), dated the 11th April 1913, and the India Office letter No. P.& P.864 dated the 13th November 1913, I am directed to state for His Lordship's information, that 50 copies of the reproduction of Mrs. Herringham's Ajanta cave paintings are required for distribution among local Governments and the Government of India, and that 58 copies have been indented for by certain Political Officers for distribution in Native States, etc. I am to add that the Parties concerned will meet the cost of the copies which they take.

DIARY No.....

Doc No 1118 & 6.11.14

SECTION Secret

FILE No. 65 & 13-14

Mysore Residency,

Bangalore, the 6th January 1914.

No. 115.

A copy of the foregoing letter is forwarded to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore for information with -- reference to the correspondence ending with Mr. Chamberlayne's letter No. 89 Pol., dated the 24th July 1913.

First Assistant Resident.

Ans

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No. 4206
C—3.

FROM

MAJOR T. H. ST. GEORGE TUCKER,
FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

To

The Dewan of Mysore.

Dated Bangalore, 16th Dec — 1916.

SIR,

With reference to the correspondence ending with Mr. Dravidavasiengar's letter No. 69 Pol., dated the 4th July 1913, I am directed to forward three copies of Mary Herringham's reproductions of the Ajanta Frescoes and to request that the price of the work at £ 3/- a copy may be remitted to the Resident's Treasury to the credit of the Government of India and the fact intimated to this office.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

T. St. G. Tucker

First Assistant Resident.

No. 4207.

A copy of the foregoing letter is forwarded to the Officer in charge of the Resident's Treasury, Bangalore for information.

(Sd) T. St. G. Tucker

First Assistant Resident.

mc

R. O. 2.—R. P. B.—5-1916.—1,000

G. R. S. 26]

File No. 65-13

Serial No. 5

Inward No. of letter replied to .....

No.

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

the 191 .

To

The Officer in charge of the Nuwara
The Resident Treasury
Bungalow

Sir

I am directed to forward herewith Rs 135/- being the price of three copies of Lady Horniman's impression of the Ajanta Frescoes, as ~~noted~~ desired in letter No 4206 of 16th June 16 from the P.A. Resident in Singapore and to request the favour of an acknowledgment.

I have etc

for Colonial Secretary

Date of issue .....

Signed by .....

over for Reply.

SUBJECT.

(G. R. S. 26)

File No.

Serial No.

Diary No. *of letter replied to* .....

No.

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

the *191* .

To

Date of issue .....

Signed by .....

SUBJECT.